

BOOK REVIEWS

CALIFORNIA MEDICINE does not review all books sent to it by the publishers. A list of new books received is carried in the Advertising Section.

INTRODUCTION TO HEMATOLOGY—Samuel I. Rapaport, M.D., Professor of Medicine, Head, Hematology Division, Department of Medicine, University of Southern California School of Medicine and The Los Angeles County-University of Southern California Medical Center, Los Angeles. Medical Book Department, Harper & Row, Publishers, 49 East 33rd Street, New York City (10016), 1971. 403 pages, 112 illustrations, \$10.50.

Dr. Rapaport has written a book which provides a missing link between the standard hematologic tome and the lecture notes from medical school. It is truly an introduction to hematology, a concise synoptic review of the essentials of practical everyday hematology. This well-written book is not for the hematologist, but for the practitioner, for the house officer and for the student who wants a book which provides a broad basis of knowledge upon which he can build and which includes some basic concepts of practical therapeutics.

The text contains a good deal of basic physiology (for example, leukocyte kinetics) presented in clear, easy to understand prose and the content is up to date, as for example the discussion of the role of dilantin and the oral contraceptives in folic acid deficiency. Congratulations are due to the author and his photographer for producing some of the best black and white photomicrographs of hematopoietic tissues I have ever seen.

All is not superb. The discussion of glucose 6-phosphate dehydrogenase deficiency is a bit sketchy and there is an error in the discussion of the Philadelphia chromosome. The drawbacks are minor. This reviewer believes that the book serves its purpose admirably. I fully intend to recommend it to, and use it for, the medical students I teach—whether they are currently in school or whether they graduated 30 years ago.

LOIS F. O'GRADY, M.D.

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UREMIA—Progress in Pathophysiology and Treatment—John P. Merrill, M.D., Professor of Medicine, Harvard Medical School; Director, Cardiorenal Section, Peter Bent Brigham Hospital, Boston; and Constantine L. Hampers, M.D., Assistant Professor of Medicine, Harvard Medical School; Director, Dialysis Facilities, Cardiorenal Section, Peter Bent Brigham Hospital, Boston. Grune & Stratton, Inc., 757 Third Avenue, New York City (10017), 1971. 115 pages, \$7.00.

It is not infrequent that a physician faces decisions regarding the symptoms, etiology and management of a uremic patient. Over the past one or two decades, tremendous advances have been made in the field of the pathophysiology and treatment of the uremic patient. This field, therefore, is not dissimilar from others in medicine. All of us as physicians admittedly find it difficult to be thoroughly acquainted with all of these advances. This book is a concise succinct summary on the subject of uremia which can bring a physician rapidly up to date on the most recent proposals and observations regarding this entity. It makes no claims of "being all-

inclusive" but each facet discussed is well referenced, allowing the reader to further pursue in detail any facet of particular interest to him.

I am impressed on the excellent current bibliography provided on the subject (nearly 300 references). Most of these references are from current literature dating even into 1970. If for no other reason, this book is excellent to have in one's library for a reference source on the subject.

The book, which can be rapidly read, being only 115 pages in length, is actually an augmentation and updating of material which appeared in the *New England Journal of Medicine* in April of 1970 on the pathophysiology of uremia. The book, however, in addition contains an entire section devoted to the current concepts of treatment of the uremic patient. Not only is hemodialysis, peritoneal dialysis and transplantation discussed, but the initial conservative phase of treatment is also emphasized. Various complications of the uremic patient are also discussed. The book is also well illustrated and contains a number of excellent radiographic reproductions.

I highly recommend this book to any clinician, but particularly to the general practitioner or internist as a very current, concise, well-documented review on the subject of uremia, its pathophysiology and treatment.

ROBERT E. SODERBLOM, M.D.
MILTON G. CRANE, M.D.

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A PRIMER OF CLINICAL DIAGNOSIS—William B. Buckingham, M.D., Associate Professor of Medicine, Department of Medicine, Northwestern University Medical School, Chicago; Marshall Sparger, M.D., Assistant Professor of Medicine, Department of Medicine, Northwestern University Medical School, Chicago; Martin Brandfonbrener, M.D., Professor of Medicine, Chief of Cardiology, Department of Medicine, Northwestern University Medical School, Chicago. Harper & Row, Publishers, Inc., Medical Department, 49 East 33rd Street, New York City (10016), 1971. 356 pages with 154 illustrations, \$12.75.

This short textbook was developed to meet new curriculum requirements at Northwestern University Medical School, where students are taught physical diagnosis in their freshman year. The basic skills of diagnosis are concisely but thoroughly covered in language which can be understood by students who are in the process of learning human anatomy and physiology, and have not yet studied organ system pathology. The book should prove very useful, not only to students in the kind of curriculum presented at Northwestern University, but as an aid to self instruction for medical students wishing to indulge in clinical work before having had formal courses in physical diagnosis, or as a textbook for use in nursing or other paramedical professional training programs.

ELLEN BROWN, M.D.